5-4-89

Inside Today:

K-9:Bow-wow

See page 3

'Hale' storms to victory

See page 4

Valley Star

Thursday
May 4, 1989

Van Nuys, California | Serving Valley College for 40 years | Vol. 40, No. 25

NEWS BRIEFS

Seminar teaches memory 'tricks'

A seminar to help students improve their study habits will be offered by Dr. Steven Mark Sachs, a counselor at Valley College, on May 23.

The free seminar is designed to help students master whatever material they are studying with less effort and better results, said Sachs.

Sachs' information is based on the results of actual learning research and will include methods to reduce the time it takes to study. Special "tricks" to improve memory and performance will be revealed, he said.

Sachs did his doctoral work on memory enhancement for college students. He has lectured on study and memory techniques at California State University, Los Angeles, Los Angeles Valley College and the United States Navy.

Teachers' salaries increase 5.6 percent

The average salary for public-school teachers in the United States is $29,567, according to the National Education Association.

The figure is a 5.6 percent increase over last year's average of $28,008.

However, NEA President Mary Hatwood Futrell said that the gain was not a significant one in light of adjustment for inflation.

NEA estimates that when adjusted for inflation the average salary has grown by only $1,844, or 12.3 percent over the decade.

"Teacher salaries have not increased significantly," said Futrell. "If we are to remain competiitive in the domestic and international markets, we must insure that teachers are the very best available and compensate them with professional level salaries."

The average salary for California teachers was estimated at $35,285, up from last year's figure of $33,159.

Alaska had the highest figure at $41,693, while South Dakota was at the bottom at $20,480. All the information was compiled from reports by each states' Department of Education.

Futrell also calls for raising the entry-level salary for all teachers to $25,000. The NEA estimates that the average beginning salary for teachers is $18,500.

$250 raised for funeral of student's daughter

Faculty and students of the electronics department at Valley raised $250 to help Donna Thorne, a student at Valley, pay her daughter's funeral expenses.

Marie Thorne, 22, died April 25 when she was shot seven times while sitting in a parked car on Crescent Heights blvd. Thorne and her friend, Shannon Thames, had just left Carlos and Charlie's nightclub.

Thames was also shot and is listed in critical condition at Cedar Sinai hospital in Hollywood.

Police are investigating the crime and there are no suspects at this time.

The funeral was held Wednesday at Rucker's Mortuary in Pacoima.

Take the money and run...

ERIC LAWSON / Valley Star

Valley freshman Marie Dungo won $138,000 in KIIS-FM's Dash for Cash promotion held last Thursday at the First Interstate Bank in Hollywood. Dungo had 102.7 seconds to grab as much as she could of $1 million from a bank vault.

Evening students may get break

Lee proposes program

By JEANNETTE REGALADO
Staff Writer

Valley College President Mary Lee is researching a tentative transfer program for evening students with Phil Clarke, professor of mathematics.

According to Clarke, Lee could meet with the department chairpersons as early as fall of 1989 to discuss mapping out a series of courses they recommend.

Lee realizes that many who want to reach an educational goal cannot acheive this in the evening unless they interrupt their daytime work program. Most majors are offered in the evening but some, like lab sciences, are only available during the day.

"Evening students taking six units (per semester) will be able to complete an associate degree or transfer program in five years or 10 semesters (under the proposed program)," said Lee.

Lee wants to finalize some programs that will offer classes off campus at industrialized sites.

Valley evening students attend school for different reasons. Some want to upgrade their skills, change careers or further them, and many already have baccalaureate degrees and just take courses out of interest, according to Lee.

Lee hopes to strengthen the financial aid for evening students. If this plan is worked out, the student services offices will extend their business hours to accommodate evening students.

"I believe that this emphasis on evening students will raise the number of full time students even more." said Lee. "Valley College is currently the largest college in the district with 16,175 students for spring semester; that is 620 students ahead of the next largest college in the district."

'Lizard Lady' a party animal

By JEANNETTE REGALADO
Staff Writer

Melanie Pickrell, a Valley student, is snaking her way through college. She is the *Lizard Lady*, and for $100 she will bring an entourage of snakes and lizards to children's parties.

Pickrell is a single mother of two children, ages 11 and five. She will receive a journalism degree in June, and she also works part-time as a pre-school teacher at All Children Great and Small.

She noticed that children loved to study reptiles. Her son, Daniel, would drag her every day to Slither City, a Van Nuys pet shop that specializes in snakes, lizards, bugs and other unusual pets.

It was there that she met the store owner, Wes Pollack. When she came up with the idea of the *Lizard Lady*, Pollack loaned her the animals and provided an assistant. She soon bought the animals, paying their costs off slowly.

She owns most of her animals now but borrows an occasional reptile at a client's request.

Her clients range from celebrities to working families. "Some houses are so big and beautiful and others are held at apartments and you can tell they scraped every last penny," said Pickrell.

"Most are looking for more than entertainment; they want something educational," said Pickrell. "Others are just tired of clowns and games."

At the parties, children sit mesmerized at the sight of skinny, brightly colored milk snakes, tortoises, a chameleon and her newest addition; a tegu, a large lizard which is black with white spots.

One of her largest and most popular attractions is a 2-year-old, 7-and-a-half-foot Burmese python named Sheila.

Pickrell says the hardest part is lifting a 40 lb. snake and draping it over a client's shoulders.

The snakes eat live mice and rats. They only eat twice a month and are very clean animals except for the occasional shedding of skin, which Pickrell saves and gives away as party favors.

Melanie Pickrell

Three first-placers

Star wins 16 JACC awards

The *Valley Star* took 14 individual awards at the Journalism Association of Community Colleges' 33rd annual conference last weekend, including three first-place finishes.

Walter Hernandez took first place in the feature photo category and Dan Ecoff did the same in the sports photo essay category. Both photos were in the mail-in division, which comprises material submitted from the previous semester.

In on-the-spot competition, in which articles and photos are judged during the contest, Catherine Gunn placed first in the copy editing category. Gunn also made honorable mention in the mail-in sports feature category.

Douglas Gintz, Dean Hotta, Judith Waxman and Eric Lawson took two awards each. Gintz placed second in standard page layout and an honorable mention in editorial cartoon. Hotta placed second in critical review and fourth in copy editing.

Waxman took third in mail-in magazine light humor and fifth in on-the-spot feature writing. Lawson placed fourth in both on-the-spot sports and bring-in photo.

Photographers Carlos Diaz and Gianni Pirovano also won awards. Diaz placed second in on-the-spot feature news photo and Pirovano was third in magazine photo.

The *Star* also took two staff awards; a third-place finish for headline writing and an honorable mention for general excellence, large standard format.

-Compiled by Staff

Campus Calendar

Faculty Association Scholarship

The LAVC Faculty Association will award up to four scholarships to deserving students this year.

Applicants must have a GPA of 3.5 or better in all college class work and be qualified for an A.A. or A.S. degree in Spring 1989.

Submission of three faculty recommendations and attendance at graduation ceremonies this spring are mandatory to receive the scholarship award.

Applications may be obtained from and returned to Ruth Siegal, financial aid office, no later than May 19.

Scholarship honors football player

A $10,000 scholarship is being donated to Valley College in the memory of Monarch's wide receiver Jeff Blank, by his parents Janet and Steven Blank of Simi Valley.

The Jeff Blank Memorial Scholarship will be awarded in June to a member of the football team who has financial need. The recipient will be someone who will graduate in June and wants to continue his education but would not be financially able to do so.

Gunning Scholarship

A $250 scholarship is being offered in memory of Emily Gunning, who taught at Valley from 1966-84.

Interested students must meet the following prerequisites: be a sociology major, have completed six or more units in sociology and have a cumulative GPA o f 3.0 or greater.

Applications and recommendations must be delivered to the sociology department by noon, May 19.

Summer Session

Starting May 15 students may make appointments to enroll for summer session 1989 at the west counter in the administration building.

OPEN HOURS:
9 a.m.-8 p.m. M-Th
9 a.m.-3 p.m. F

Summer session begins June 26, 1989.

—STAR EDITORIAL—

Grumbling over security

Students at Valley College pay a $15 fee, per car, per semester, for the privilege of using parking facilities on the campus. In so doing, they are guaranteed a parking space which they believe will be safe. Many students as well as Tau Alpha Epsilon, M.E.Ch.A and Parents Interest Clubs are now questioning the inadequacy of the security provided for our campus.

•

The *Valley Star* is receiving complaints from a growing number of students concerned with their safety on campus. Among student complaints are the increasing number of auto thefts, vandalisms and break-ins.

A young woman recently reported an incident to the student council. She said she was walking down Campus Drive to her car when she noticed four men pushing her car toward Oxnard Street. She screamed for help, alerting the thieves who then ran away to hide. She ran back to the building, trying to find some kind of assistance, and noticed two campus police officers conversing, oblivious to any security problems.

The college collects parking fees and allocates them to a "parking fund." The yearly allocation to this fund is not being publicly released. What is known is that this fund is distributed according to the needs of the aforementioned facilities. One of those needs is more effective patrolling.

The college administration also collects fees from outside activities that have required the use of the parking areas. The use of the lots by production film companies and for the purpose of toxic waste collection are two recent examples.

The *Star* believes that the school administration has the responsibility of fighting the growing trend of crime on our campus. Accordingly, we expect that extra moneies raised through private ventures be reinvested in parking and security to make this a safer campus.

Cinco de Mayo...

Mexico's misunderstood holiday

By JUAN MORILLO
Staff Writer

Mike, a Jewish American friend, and I used to take joy out of discussing our ethnic differences. One time he asked me why we Brown Americans celebrated Cinco De Mayo which, according to him, was nothing but a "Mexican Holiday." I immediately asked him why (Jewish Americans) celebrate Hanukkah in relation to a historical landmark that occurred over 2,000 years ago in a land far across the Atlantic Ocean.

After a heated argument, which could have offended even the most liberal doctrinaire from either side, we concluded that in both events, we celebrated the commemoration of the struggle for peace and justice among two different groups of people.

In the case of Cinco de Mayo, the history of Mexico marks May 5th as the day when a poorly-armed Mexican army, with the support of rural people, defeated the powerful French troops in the Battle of Puebla in 1862. Since then, according to writer, actor and artist Tony Buruaga, "Cinco de Mayo" represents the celebration of the never-say-die spirit of all Mexicans: *Si se puede* (it can be done).

For Chicanos living in the southwestern U.S., the Cinco de Mayo spirit began to settle down during the sociopolitical movement of the 60s and early 70s. The 60s were a time of sociopolitical turmoil. Chicanos felt ignored and neglected by a society that was only able to see Black or White. Brown Americans started to organize themselves, claiming their natural rights as citizens of this nation.

All over the Southwest that spirit was spread. In Tierra Amarilla, New Mexico, Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales led Chicanos in their claims for their stolen land rights.

In Northern California, Cesar Chavez organized farm workers in their pursuit to unionize. Students in Texas, Colorado, Arizona and California boycotted classes and demanded "equality in education."

At Valley College, M.E.Ch.A. (Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan or the Chicano Student Movement) was able to force the administration to hire Chicano counselors and to implement Chicano studies as part of the curriculum.

In 1970, the East L.A. Community got together for the Chicano Moratorium to peacefully demonstrate against the war in Vietnam. The police used this opportunity to practice another attack on Brown communities. An LAPD tear gas rocket took away the life of Ruben Salazar, making him a martyred hero of the Chicano Movement and journalism. Despite the pain and sorrow that inundated the Barrio, the people were able to preserve that spirit of hope and desire.

The spirit of Cinco de Mayo is rich in historical background, but its meaning still confuses a lot of people. Here is where our consumer society comes to light and looks at the event in the dollar perspective. Markets will have specials on tortillas and salsas, bars will sell 2-for-1 margaritas, mariachis and Aztec dancers will make a fortune gigging around town for 24 hours, and so on.

In the political arena, we will be able to see token *politicos* parading with their sombreros and giving breathtaking Spanish speeches. Even the President will declare official the day of "Hispanic Heritage."

On that day, the press conference will relate to "Hispanic issues" and the "Hispanic media" will be allowed to ask questions. Later, the President will excuse himself, saying he has to take a siesta and he will, pronto, leave for one of the mansion's patios.

All of the aforementioned tends to create false conceptions of what Cinco de Mayo really represents. All we Brown Americans are trying to do is to take pride in our identity, in who we are and in what we want to do.

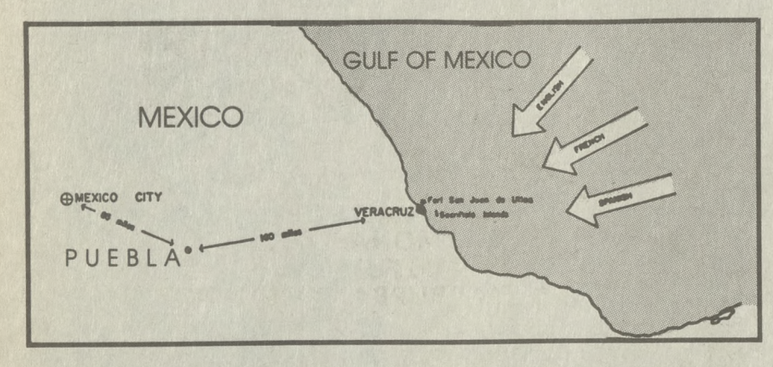
By the way, we are not Hispanics! This is a negligent, sexist and egocentric label. It does not include or even imply our Indian or Afro heritage. No one considers *her*panic, and of *their*panic no one even talks about.

We are not a group of freaks trying to separate society by racial boundaries. What we want is to be fully able to integrate into society and for society to accept and understand us for who we are.

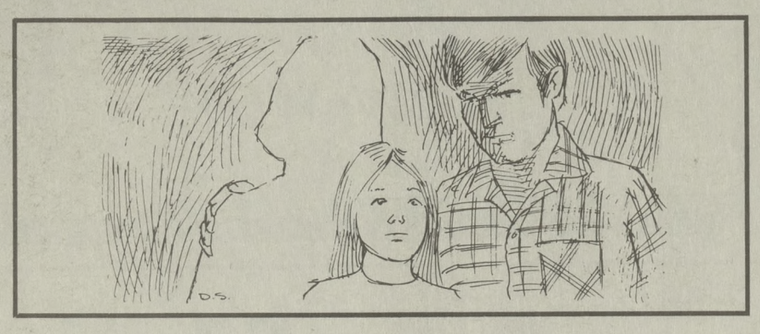
Nor are we anti-American. Just for the record, our ancestors lived on this soil long before Columbus decided to fool around on the seas. After all, if we didn't love this country, we wouldn't be working so hard for its betterment.

We Chicanos and Latinos, want to extend our fraternal hands to the rest of society and we invite you to celebrate and share that spirit with us. !Que viva, el Cinco de Mayo, todo el ano!...!Carajo!

...Puebla Battle Day



◀ *Invading British and Spanish troops left France alone to conquer Mexico. On May 5, 1862, Mexico defeated the French at the Battle of Puebla.*



Suicide:

The real victim

By LLEW D. BUSH
Staff Writer

Six years! It took that long to get over my wife's death. Suicide not only kills the victim but it leaves human wreckage behind.

At the time I worked as a church Pastor. In that role I dealt with death often. So, with the proper support I hoped to manage a quick personal recovery. However, to compund matters, I lost my job. You see, the good people of my congregation never found the ability to deal with the suicide of a Pastor's wife, and consequently, lost the ability to deal realistically with me as their Pastor any longer. My world collapsed. My spirit fled. My soul shriveled. I left town.

I relocated with my too young to understand daughter, back to our large metropolitan town and wallowed in self-pity and anonymity. For two years without work, living on a small pension, I played the role of caring father, while secretly living the life of self-exile.

Every night I put my daughter to bed with love and kisses and smiles. While she slept, I stared with empty eyes into the flickering TV tube and ate my way into oblivion.

I usually managed a few hours of fitfull sleep each night. I awoke easily to my alarm, set to provide enough time to ready my girl for school. A shave, a spash of water to mask my grief with a fake smile and a cheerful greeting in order to play the role again. Out of sight, out of mind. I slept away the day to forget the pain and awoke only to play the daddy role each afternoon.

This went on for two years. I gained over a 100 pounds. My family never knew the truth, they only suspected and worried.

Finally, after prodding by my sister, I managed to get a job teaching and I started a slow climb

"...I played the role of caring father, while secretly living the life of self-exile."

out of darkness. This combination of working with kids and talking to the right people helped me mend, but oh so slowly.

It took four years before I allowed my rage at God to surface, where, with guidance, I learned to manage it and eventually release it: a release that seemed a physical pleasure. Acceptance of my wife's suicide soon followed.

Day by day now life renews itself and I build upon each day's freedom toward healing which involves both my physical image and inner self-esteem. The road ahead winds, twist and turns nearer to the horizon each day.

I look back now and then: to remember the good things of my eleven year marriage, to understand the mental illness that drove my wife to suicide (clinical depression), and to remind myself to keep running away from the years of darkness into a brighter future.

Considering suicide? Consider first the real victim — your family!

Painless but stupid

By JUDITH WAXMAN
View Editor

A few years ago, as I was walking down Sunset Boulevard, a shabbily dressed old man with beard stubble on his face suddenly turned toward me with a piercing look and quietly said, "I hope I die tonight." Then, just as quietly as he appeared, he melted into the pedestrian traffic.

Crestfallen, I stood still. In one split second, with five earth-shattering words, a total stranger had shaken my world. My helplessness seemed as profound as his hopelessness. My mind raced, trying to understand him. "All his family and friends have died," I thought. "He has nothing to live for and no one to tell."

In time, I hoped that as he had told me, perhaps he would also tell others and they would help him.

Last summer, a close friend named Ralph committed suicide. On Aug. 1, Ralph went into his garage, closed the door and started his car. He was 41-years-old.

We had met in 1970, when I was a recluse, shutting myself inside and the world outside. Down in the

"I hope I die tonight."

dumps, I was reeling from a recent breakup, disgusted with the way my life was going. Hurting but not dead, I was down but not out.

It took me five years, Ralph's friendship and support and a dog named Sammy, but slowly, I turned my life around.

I learned to understand other people and myself. I became my best friend, instead of my worst enemy. And, I realized that life is risk and change, but that it has limits and to accept these limits with grace. The trick is to be vulnerable and bowed — but not beaten.

The world loves a survivor and hasn't any sympathy for a suicide. But the constant number of suicides demands attention as it is one of the leading causes of death among college students...and is rising.

Some experts say that there are two to three unreported suicides for every one recorded, since many suicides are reported as accidents.

Whether "pulling the plug" with pills, gas, gun, rope or razor, a suicide victim surrenders, mentally, physically and spiritually.

Whatever happened to self-preservation? Why do people kill themselves? Do they think that life is supposed to be easy?

Zorba the Greek said, "Life is trouble, only death is not trouble." Although we are *sui generis,* one of a kind, sooner or later, *everyone* experiences personal loss, major disappointment and painful failure in life, but not everyone becomes deeply depressed—gripped by paralyzing despair—because of them.

If something is wrong, find someone to tell, whether it is in the school or the workplace or a total stranger, like the old man told me.

"Suicide is painless, it brings on many changes," the song lyrics tell us. Perhaps suicide is painless; it certainly is stupid.

—Letter to the Star—

Hot issue still burning

Editor,

Thank you for publishing the article by Judith Waxman, "When abortion was illegal," in your April 20 edition of the *Star*. Although having children out of wedlock is less disgraceful and dishonorable today, for the last eight years the atmosphere has been swaying back to the self-righteous morality era of the pre-60s.

For centuries nature had controlled the outcome of pregnancies, whether wanted or unwanted, through natural processes. In later years, induced abortions were used as a controlled method of birth control. This practice was widespread into the 19th Century when, due to the unsafe surgical procedures which commonly were a threat to the woman's life, abortions became illegal.

Due to advances in scientific technology in recent years, the process is more controllable, and therefore easier to have a wanted child, *as well as* to not have an unwanted child.

Ironically, due to the large amount of illegal abortions being performed in unhealthy situations, pre *Roe vs. Wade*, abortions became legal again for the same reason it was illegalized.

The fight continues among pro-lifers and pro-choicers. The pro-lifers want, due to their own religious beliefs, to take the safety of technology away from people like Judith, forcing them into situations that could be life-threatening.

Pro-choicer's only want, as Sherre Sellar's letter in the section next to Judith's article stated: "They would be open to all opinions and eventually come up with a conclusion that is acceptable to them because it's based on their own beliefs and not that of someone else." That is *exactly* what pro-choice means.

Regarding the letter written by Ben Griffith to the *Star*(April 27); I believe that Griffith, speaking as a Fundamentalist Christian, has the right to object to Mitzi Szereto's article "Abortion: A woman's right" (*Star,* March 30).

However, when a person uses false statements in an attempt to discredit another person's opinion, that right, I feel, has been abused.

I am amazed at how often Hitler is used as a supporter of issues that some people are opposed to. Not only was Hitler anti-abortion, he advocated the physical punishment of men who even *suggested* that their girlfriends or wives go to abortionists.

Griffith's question, "does anyone claim the right to destroy inconvenient human life?" was interesting, considering that on Thursday, April 27, at 2:25 a.m., 29 year old Jeanette Devine was pronounced dead at Faith Deliverance Church of God in Christ, Reno, Nevada.

For approximately five hours, rather than calling paramedics for help, Fundamentalist Christians prayed and chanted "Come out, Devil" while Devine lay dying on the church floor. Luther Dupree, superintendent for northern Nevada Church of God in Christ said church members were not careless by their actions, and the church was not negligent.

So much for pro-life.

Ben Sinks
Business Major

Valley Star Los Angeles Valley College

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★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★

The Valley Star is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers.

The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic or religious denigrations.

Letters should be signed and, if applicable, include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the Valley Star office, Bungalow 25, by Monday for the following Thursday.

EYE TO EYE — Dooley (James Belushi) sets Jerry Lee straight in *K-9*.

Movie Review

K-9 goes to the dogs

By J. LAWSON BREWER
Entertainment Editor

K-9, an action comedy, is a predictable movie about a man, a woman and a dog. Actually, it's about Thomas Dooley (James Belushi), San Diego's nuttiest narcotics detective, his loyal girlfriend Tracey (Mel Harris) and Jerry Lee as himself, an intelligent, rambunctious and sometimes funny police dog.

The plot of *K-9* revolves around the life of detective Dooley, an ambitious cop whose unorthodox style of crime fighting puts him on top of drug lord Lyman's (Kevin Tighe) hit list.

After a failed assassination attempt on Dooley's life by Lyman, senior officer Lt. Byers (James Handy) urges him to get a partner. Nobody on the entire police force is crazy or stupid enough to take him on as a partner, but nor does Dooley want them to.

With a little help from K-9 officer Lt. Brannigan (Ed O'Neil), Dooley takes on Jerry Lee, aka "The Killer," as a partner. Together, they form an unbeatable crime fighting machine: Dooley as the brawn, Jerry Lee as the brains.

Another segment of the movie is dedicated to the flaky relationship between detective Dooley and his girlfriend Tracey, which is often put on hold because of Dooley's hard core devotion towards crime fighting. But the lovable pooch Jerry Lee, who is now living with Dooley and Tracey, draws them closer together and helps build a stronger relationship between the two.

The climax starts to build when Dooley's constant nit-picking as a detective provokes drug lord Lyman to kidnap Tracey and negotiate a deal of setting her free in exchange for Dooley's lying low on one of his future drug-smuggling adventures.

Throughout the film, Belushi's character spews smart-ass, off the cuff, sarcastic remarks which fail to be funny in content or remotely cute in delivery. These sly remarks are similar to Clint Eastwood, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Sylvester Stallone's one-liners, but unfortunately for the viewer, they lack the charisma and the punch.

The whole production hinges on the antics and cutesy performance of Jerry Lee. But the ice tea-sipping, jealous, trouble-making dog, who predictably always comes to the Belushi's rescue, is nothing the viewer hasn't seen before with Benji, Lassie, Boomer or even Rin Tin Tin.

All in all, *K-9* fails. As a great comedy duo, Dooley's and Jerry Lee's relationship lacked the madcap slapstick comedy of Abbott and Costello, the differentiating personalities of Felix and Oscar in *The Odd Couple* and the zaniness of Ralph Kramden and Ed Norton in *The Honeymooners*.

With such gems as *WKRP in Cincinnati*, *Newhart* and *Magnum P.I.* in director Rod Daniel's resume, why was this terribly average movie, which he wrote as well as directed, transferred from script to silver screen?

In retrospect, Rod Daniel's *K-9* is very much like the other movies he has directed: *Teen Wolf* and *Like Father Like Son*. At best, *K-9* is to be considered average.

Makin' it big in L.A.

By DOUGLAS GINTZ
Columnist

Whether it's in underground or aboveground clubs, Los Angeles musicians are *rockin' in a hard place*.

While it's been estimated that only one out of every 1,000 bands in Los Angeles ever sees some type of measurable success (i.e. record deals, radio play, etc.), musicians still endure the hardships of the scene for a shot at the "big time."

Some musicians would call "makin' it big" getting signed to a record deal; however, even this is questionable. Getting signed is far from the guarantee of success that it may have been in the past.

Nowadays when a band is given a chance to *lay down some tracks on vinyl*, they're basically assured that they will at least be afforded the opportunity to cut an album. However, whether that album will be distributed or promoted properly is another matter.

Distribution and promotion in the record business is everything. Locations where albums are distributed play a major role in a band's success. Many bands will cut one album and never be heard from again.

This failure has partly to do with limited distribution where the band has a following or distribution in cities where there is very little, if any, name recognition of the band.

Another factor which comes into play is promotion. Many *labels* are working on tight budgets and must choose which bands they will promote, how much money they will put into promotions of those bands, as well as how they promote the bands.

Therefore it is crucial for a band to get both distribution and promotion working in its favor. Unfortunately, most bands are on a *pay to play* basis before they get signed.

For example, for every show that earns a band, say $300, it usually spends more than that amount on self-promotion and other expenses. Which means that usually by the time they get signed, the band members have exhausted their resources and have accumulated a large debt.

Also, if the band's record deal falls through or the support of the label is not behind them, it can very well mean the death of the band.

Playing in a band is no longer a sport or recreation, but has become a serious business—*not recommended for amateurs*. Success comprises both luck and skill. However, for those who *make it*, it's well worth the struggle. But for those who don't, they will undoubtedly remember the experience as just a time when they were *rockin' in a hard place*.

THINGS TO DO, PLACES TO GO, PEOPLE TO SEE

Cinco de Mayo concert

Musician Luis Perez Ixoneztli will play a free show in Monarch Square tomorrow at noon. A native of Mexico, Ixoneztli combines electronics with traditional instruments of the culture.

At 6 p.m. the comedy troupe *Latins Anonymous* will be among the performers in the Cinco de Mayo Celebration Friday in Monarch Hall.

Presented by the Commission of Chicano and Latino Affairs, the event will also present dancers and musicians from Polytechnic High.

Admission is free. Additional information is available by calling 781-1200, extension 361.

Classical concerts

Tenor Bill Wallis will sing in the Music Recital Hall today at 11 a.m.

The LAVC Classical Guitar Ensemble under Robert G. Mayeur's direction will perform Sunday at 7:30 p.m. in the same hall.

The admission to both concerts is free. For more information call the Music Department at 781-1200, ext. 346.

Astronomy show

The Valley College Astronomy Club will present the fourth show in their series on celestial objects, entitled *Multiple Suns and the "Death Star"*, May 12 at 8 p.m. in the Planetarium.

The show will examine binary star systems and the hypothesis that our own system may be part of one.

The planetarium's 16-foot telescope will be open for observation, weather permitting, after the presentation. Admission is $3.50 for adults and $2 for children, who must be at least eight years old. Club members and college staff receive a $1 discount.

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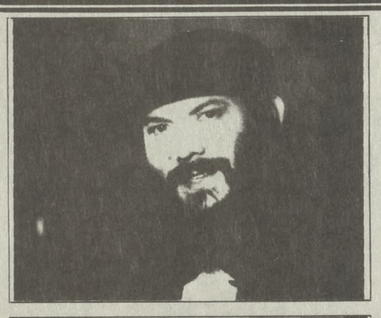
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Nine swimmers qualify for state meet

Monarchs give 'em 'Hale' at conference meet

By JERRY SAWINSKI
Sports Editor

Sophomore Dave Hale broke two conference records in the 50-yd and the 100-yd freestyle in winning both events at the Western States Conference meets held at Pierce College last weekend.

Hale's time in the 50 freestyle was 21.72 seconds. He finished the 100 freestyle in 47.42.

In addition, Hale and eight other members of the swim team qualified for the State Championship meets beginning today in Northern California.

Overall, the Monarchs placed third out of seven teams in the competition. Santa Monica City College took first place.

"We had an outstanding meet," said Coach Bill Krauss. "All of our swimmers posted their best times of the season; we tapered them very well."

Tony Pino won the 100-yd butterfly in 53.9 and placed second in the 200 butterfly with a time of 1:59.12.

Mike Lucero finished second in the 1650-yd (one mile) freestyle with a time of 17:16 minutes.

Teammate Mike McAllister finished third behind Lucero in the mile freestyle with a time of 18:06.

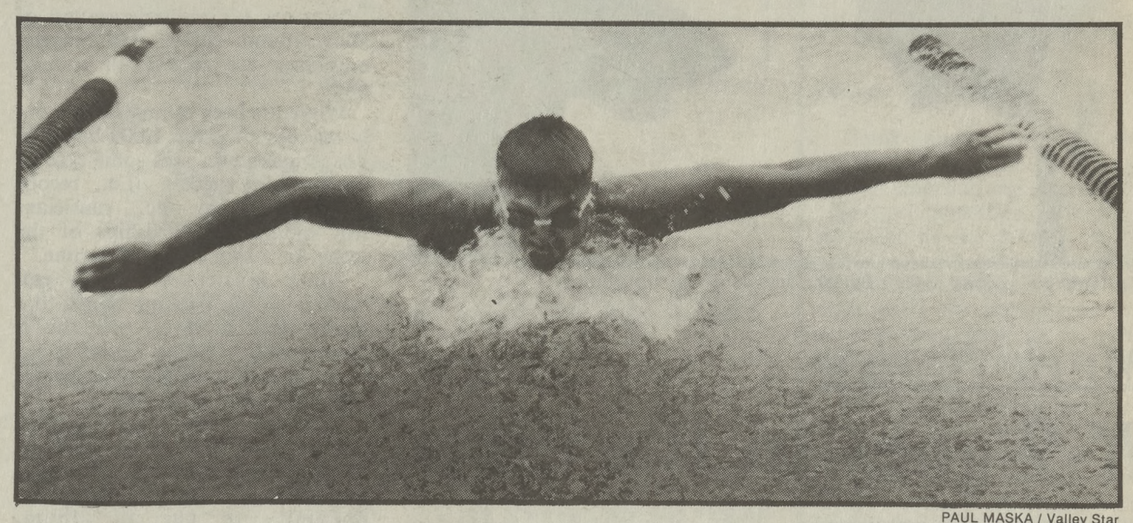
The men's diving competition saw Valley's Luis Martinez take third in the one-meter and fourth in the three-meter competition.

On the women's side, Stephanie Bair and Tracy Cordobes qualified for the state meet.

Bair placed third in the 500 freestyle with a time of 5:21.2. She also took third in the 200 freestyle in 2:01.2 and fourth in the 100 freestyle in 57.82.

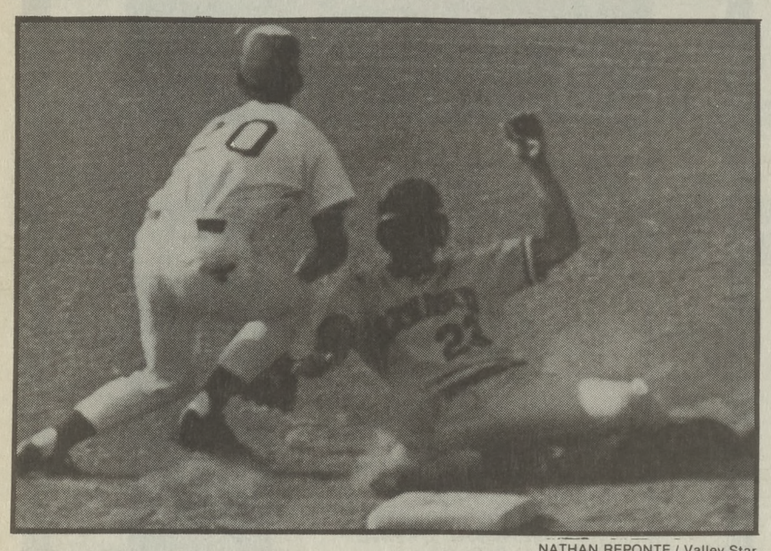
Cordobes took third in the 200 individual medley in 2:23.8. She also finished third in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:14.8 and seventh in the 500 freestyle in 5:42.2.
and had two fifth-place finishes, one in the 100 freestyle at 58.2 and the 200 freestyle with a time of 2:05.1.

In the women's one-meter diving competition, Kim Gaboury and Kricket Jones finished third and fourth respectively. The two switched places in the three-meter competition with Jones taking third and Gaboury finishing fourth.



PAUL MASKA / Valley Star

FULL SPEED AHEAD — Tony Pino of Valley finishes first in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 53.9 seconds.



NATHAN REPONTE / Valley Star

SAFE AT THIRD — John Swanson of Oxnard beats throw to Matt Arnold.

Valley walks to 2nd round

By EDWARD YOON
and ERIC BARAD
Staff Writers

The first round of the playoffs was a walk in the park for the Monarch baseball team Tuesday at Valley.

The Monarchs were issued 13 walks while banging out 10 hits in a 13-5 route over the Condors of Oxnard.

The Monarchs will play Moorpark College, who upset second-seeded College of the Canyons. The winner of the Valley-Moorpark game will earn the right to play top-seeded Ventura on Saturday.

"We've been doing a good job at the plate as of late and we just got to do the job on the mound," said Monarch baseball coach Chris Johnson. "We have the people who can do it."

In the game against Oxnard, it was Monarch pitching ace Tim DeGrasse who did the job against the Condors. DeGrasse pitched five innings, allowing a run on five hits while striking out five. He picked up the win, improving his record to 9-1.

At the plate Monarch first baseman Greg Struhl continued to hit for power. He hit his third home run in the last six games, driving in three while scoring three runs.

The Monarchs got to Oxnard starter Scott Baker at the outset, tagging him for two runs in the first inning and single runs in the second and the third.

The Oxnard bullpen faired no better against the hot Monarch bats. They gave up two runs in the fourth, four runs in the sixth and Struhl's three-run home run in the seventh over the right field fence.

"Our pitching did not get out on the right foot." said Oxnard coach George Perez. "They're (Valley) a good team. Chris Johnson is an excellent coach and you got to give them credit."

Lady M's prove Big Bang theory

By JERRY SAWINSKI
Sports Editor

In softball as in baseball, there is a common assumption that seldom escapes: it is a game of big innings.

Valley's softball team used this philosophy to their advantage as Tonya Staab and Lettie Carranza hit three-run home runs to carry the Lady Monarchs to a 7-2 win over the Cuesta College Cougars.

The game also featured the wildness of Cuesta pitcher Debbie Rigali who twice hit Valley's catcher Fran Sharpe, including once in the face during the third inning.

The inning began with a walk to Marianne Murphy. One out later Rigali issued a free pass to Vanessa Gregory.

Staab then took Rigali deep to right for her second home run of the year and a 3-0 lead.

After giving up the home run, Rigali decided to reclaim a little more of the plate.

With Sharpe digging in, the left-hander came inside — way inside.

The ball caught Sharpe flush on the left cheekbone. Sharpe lay on the ground for several minutes while being administered to by trainer Angelo Cimity. Slightly bruised but no worse for wear Sharpe was able to continue, taking first base.

"The ball just got away from me," Rigali said. "I wasn't throwing at her on purpose, I just tried to get her off the plate and it just got away from me."

After Karin Knoop lined out to short for the second out, pitcher Kasie Romero singled up the middle. Carranza then took a 1-0 pitch and deposited it into the gap in right-center for a home run and a 6-0 lead.

Cuesta scored their first run in the fourth. Rigali led off with a walk, one of ten issued on the day by Romero. A force play, a wild pitch and an RBI bounce out later the Cougars were on the board.

In the bottom of the inning, Staab reached base on an error by second baseman Liz Torres with one out. This brought Sharpe up and Rigali continued open season on the catcher by hitting her in the middle of the back.

"This is the third time she's hit me this year," said Sharpe. "I thought there was a sign that said bounty or something over my head out there."

Cougars coach Mike Lee said Rigali has had problems all year.

"She doesn't have much velocity on on her ball so she has to pitch inside to compensate for it. I think she's hit at least one batter in every game this year."

A comforting thought for future opponents.

Cuesta attempted a comeback in the seventh. With one out, Romero gave up a singles to Torres and Wendy Henley along with a walk to Beth Koopman. Stacey Appleton bounced out unassisted to first scoring Torres to make it 7-2.

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